

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APP. NO. 09/771,632

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claim 6 is the only claim pending in the Office Action, following the response to the Election of Species Requirement of December 22, 2004.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Woo et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,781,788). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Analysis of the Rejection of Claim 6

In rejecting claim 6, the Examiner cites specific portions of Woo et al as allegedly teaching each of the claimed features of claim 6. Applicant respectfully submits, however, that claim 6 is anticipated by Woo et al.

More specifically, claim 6 recites, *inter alia*: “(b) determining whether or not to perform encoding and/or decoding, by checking a reset of the task status register in the encoder and/or decoder”. The Examiner refers to Woo, at column 13, line 58 and lines 66-67, and column 14, lines 1-5 as teaching this feature. Applicant submits, however, that the portions of Woo cited by the Examiner relate to a method of rate buffer control and do not teach in any way determining whether or not to perform encoding and/or decoding by checking a reset of the task status register.

In more detail, the portion of the reference cited by the Examiner refers to Figure 5 and its accompanying description. There is no teaching, or even suggestion, in Figure 5 of determining whether or not to perform encoding and/or decoding. Step 224 is labeled “stop encoding”, but this merely means that the encoding of a frame is terminated but that encoding

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resumes with the next frame. There is clearly no determination as to whether or not to perform encoding in Step 224 or elsewhere in Figure 5.

Additionally, claim 6 recites “(c) making pre-assigned bits of the task status register indicate buffer statuses of an encoder buffer and a decoder buffer”. The Examiner refers to Woo, Figure 5, items 220 and 222, and column 13, lines 50-66 as teaching this feature. Applicant submits, however, that the portions of the references cited by the Examiner all relate to encoding and do not teach anything with respect to indicating the status of the decoder buffer.

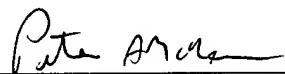
For at least the reasons presented above, Applicant submits that claim 6 is not anticipated by Woo et al.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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